

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-16 are currently being prosecuted. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the remarks as set forth below.

Allowable Subject Matter

It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner considers the subject matter of claims 1-16 as being allowable if the double-patenting rejection is overcome. Applicants are submitting herewith a Terminal Disclaimer in order to overcome this rejection. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1-16 are now in condition for allowance.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-16 stand rejected under the judicially created Doctrine of Obviousness-Type Double Patenting over claims 1-9 of U.S. Patent 6,753,646. By way of the present Amendment, Applicants are submitting herewith a Terminal Disclaimer in order to overcome this rejection. Since the Examiner has indicated that the claims would be allowable if this rejection was overcome, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response

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Amendment dated November 7, 2005
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has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

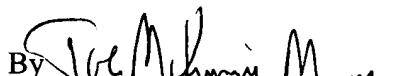
If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Robert F. Gnuse, Registration No. 27,295, at (703) 205-8076, in the Washington, D.C. area.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

IF necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: November 3, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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